

Arabs need atom bomb says Fahmi

BEIRUT, Feb. 3 (R). — Former Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi, who resigned his post after President Anwar Sadat's peace trip to Israel last Nov. has called for a summit conference of Arab leaders and the formation of a Palestinian government in exile. In an article in the latest issue of the Paris-based weekly magazine *Al Moustakbal*, Mr. Fahmi said the Arab world had reached the point of "to be or not to be". Mr. Fahmi continued: "Either Israel should be dismantled of its nuclear weapon ... or the Arab states, or one of them, should secure the nuclear weapon ... whether peace agreements are concluded or not".

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Sartre in Israel to discuss details of Mideast peace moves

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (R). — French author-philosopher Jean Paul Sartre arrived here yesterday to discuss details of peace moves in the Middle East with Israeli leaders. Sartre, who has been active in efforts to bring about meetings between Israeli leftists and pro-Palestinian moderates, has been especially anxious to come to Israel since the Jerusalem visit of Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, according to Professor Eli Ben Gal of Tel Aviv University, a close friend of the author's who arranged the visit. M. Sartre will be here for three days.

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Sadat will ask Carter to pull a Kissinger

CARAT, Feb. 3 (R). — President Anwar Sadat left Morocco today for Washington to explain to the American people the role he wants the United States to play in the Middle East peace process. He will confer over the weekend with President Jimmy Carter on the presidential retreat at Camp David, Maryland.

Mr. Sadat held talks here last night and this morning with King Hassan of Morocco. The first Arab head of state to visit the United States, Mr. Sadat is due to spend five days in the United States and will later visit London, Bonn, Vienna, Bucharest, Paris and Rome.

In Washington, President Carter today held a meeting with senior advisers to draw up a response to an expected call from President Sadat for American pressure on Israel.

Shah, Desai say Israel blocking M.E. peace

NEW DELHI, Feb. 3 (R). — The Shah of Iran and Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai said today Israel's stand in the Middle East was blocking peace prospects, an Indian official spokesman said.

The Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman said the two leaders discussed the Middle East situation in talks on the second day of the Shah's visit to India.

The spokesman said they shared the view that the incomprehensible, uncompromising and stubborn attitude of the Israelis was not conducive to the establishment of peace in the area.

The spokesman added that the Shah and Mr. Desai also came out strongly against the continued presence of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Begin: There will be no new settlements in northern Sinai

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (R). — Prime Minister Menachem Begin said today there would be no new Jewish settlements in the northern Sinai Peninsula, on the old Palestinian-Egyptian border, and Al

Addressing a meeting here of the executive of the Jewish Agency, which looks after the settlement of new immigrants, Mr. Begin said the government had decided that henceforth there would be development only in strengthening existing settlements in the Rafah approach area.

In negotiations with the Egyptians Israel has demanded the right to maintain nearly 30 settlements already established there even if they come under Egyptian jurisdiction in a peace agreement.

Mr. Begin said ties between Israel and the U.S. administration, public and Jewish were strong enough to withstand any public relations campaign by President Anwar Sadat may launch during his visit to Washington this weekend.

Referring to reports that President Sadat plans to meet leaders of Jewish communities in the countries he is about to visit, Mr. Begin said: "American, British and French Jewish is more than ever united with Israel. There will be no Jewish driven from Israel or American Jewry."

Agriculture Minister Ariel Sharon publicly attacked his assistant, Mr. Uri Ban-On, coordinator of Jewish settlement in occupied areas, for saying that Jewish settlements were more important than peace.



ALGIERS SUMMIT -- Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Abdul Hakim Khaddam looks on as President Hafiz Assad applauds during the opening session of the Algiers summit meeting Thursday. An unidentified member of the Syrian delegation is seated to the left of President Assad.

Archaeology expert criticises rationale for Shiloh settlement

TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (AP). — The controversial Israeli settlement at Shiloh, in the occupied West Bank, where Gush Emunim squatters say they will participate in an archaeological dig, was criticized today by a leading Israeli archaeologist because it is "mixing a political matter with archaeology."

Mr. Benjamin Mazar, former Chairman of Israel's Archaeological Council, told the Hebrew daily *Ha'aretz* there was no need for the project because the site has already been excavated. Other members of the council were "utterly astounded," *Ha'aretz* said.

Zvi Slonim, of Gush Emunim, said "We came to Shiloh to settle there," but in the meantime have "agreed to integrate our activities with the government's plans to carry out digs."

Mr. Slonim said he did not think his people would be mixing politics with archaeology just as they were "not mixing politics with the military in settlements established at army camps."

Many of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank are established in the framework of military bases and are not classified by the government as permanent civilian settlements.

Mr. Slonim said Gush Emunim regard the army simply as their "hosts." He said settling at army camps or archaeological sites was "our agreement with the government," and added that "this is also how the American government likes it."

On Monday, President Carter said he had received assurances that the Shiloh project 18 miles north of Jerusalem was not authorized as a settlement but as an archaeological excavation site. He added that settlements in occupied territory were illegal and an obstacle to peace.

Explosions rock W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb. 3 (R). — A bomb hidden in a flower pot exploded here today, injuring two people and damaging several cars, police said.

Passers-by noticed a large potted plant standing on a pavement in a crowded street in the centre of the city.

Police took it to a police station, but it was too big to fit into a security pit.

Minutes after it was brought in it exploded, slightly injuring two mechanics and damaged several police cars, police said.

In Hebron yesterday an Arab was killed when an explosive charge went off in the town centre, a military spokesman said in Tel Aviv.

USSR cuts money to UNTSO

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 3 (R). — The Soviet Union said today it had again refused to pay a full share of the cost of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation in the Middle East.

A Soviet press release also warned that a time might come when Moscow would have to reconsider making any payment at all towards the upkeep of U.N. forces, stationed in the Sinai peninsula and the Golan Heights.

For the second year running, the Russians declined to pay their share of expenses connected with the additional functions of U.N. forces following the 1975 Egyptian-Israeli disengagement agreement.

The press release said the Soviet Union had "nothing to do with this agreement."

Beirut bomb injures three

BEIRUT, Feb. 3 (Agencies). — A small bomb exploded in a popular restaurant in downtown Beirut, slightly wounding three persons, police reported.

Two other bombs were dismantled by police sappers before exploding.

The restaurant -- Palestine Cafe -- in Beirut's Riad Al Solh Square is usually crowded with customers smoking the traditional waterpipes and drinking tea.

Luckily the bomb was a small one otherwise it would have

Brezhnev hints at increased Soviet aid for South Yemen during Moscow talks

MOSCOW, Feb. 3 (R). — Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and South Yemeni Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammad discussed the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia in the Horn of Africa during talks here today, Tass news agency said.

Mr. Mohammad, whose country is apparently playing a key role in Soviet policy over the fighting agreed with Mr. Brezhnev on the need for a peaceful settlement, Tass said.

Two days ago Mr. Brezhnev met Cuban Defence Minister Raul Castro in Moscow in what observers saw as a move to coordinate Soviet, Cuban and South Yemeni military aid to Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers.

Tass also reported that the USSR and South Yemen signed an inter-governmental agreement today on economic and technical cooperation. No details were given but the accord presumably provided the framework for Soviet aid to South Yemen observers said.

In his speech Mr. Kosygin hinted that more aid was in the offing. A great deal had been done to make the cooperation between the two countries more fruitful in recent years, and the Soviet Union was "prepared to go further along this way," he said.

This follows unconfirmed reports that Saudi Arabia has cut off aid to South Yemen.

The Middle East situation was also discussed in the talks, which Tass said were held in an atmosphere of friendship, frankness and mutual understanding.

Both nations have condemned President Anwar Sadat for undertaking separate talks with Israel but unlike South Yemen, Moscow still supports the idea of a negotiated settlement based on the Geneva Middle East peace conference.

Prospects for Algiers summit brighten as Qadhafi, Habash arrive

ALGIERS, Feb. 3 (R). — Arab leaders opposed to the Egyptian peace initiative said today that any Middle East settlement which ignored the Palestinians could only be "war in abeyance". The five members of a hard-line alliance holding summit talks here said President Anwar Sadat's actions were aimed at turning the Arab World into a field of confrontation between the forces of imperialism and independence.



QADHAFI COMMENTS -- Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi is pictured here during a brief interview on his arrival at the Algiers summit Friday. Algerian President Houari Boumedienne looks on.

They condemned "imperialist intervention" in the Middle East and North Africa and declared that Soviet weapons had already destroyed "the myth of Israeli invincibility."

The veiled threats of a possible recourse to arms was contained in a prepared statement read by Algerian Foreign Minister Abdel Aziz Bouteflika mid-way through the second day of the conference.

The Arab "resistance front", set up at a summit in Tripoli on Dec. 5, groups Algeria, Syria, the Libyan Jamahiriyah, South Yemen and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Its leaders are meeting here to discuss new plans for frustrating what they regard as an anti-Arab conspiracy being conducted by the U.S. and Israel with Egyptian complicity.

The talks received a boost today with the late arrival of Libyan head of state Muammar Qadhafi, who failed to attend the opening session yesterday. But informed sources said he had been suffering from a stomach complaint.

Algerian officials had expressed deep disappointment at Col. Qadhafi's absence, which followed an Iraqi decision to boycott the summit altogether.

There had been speculation that Col. Qadhafi was reluctant to attend the summit because of an Algerian insistence on linking the Arab struggle against Israel with the Algerian-sponsored guerrilla struggle against the Moroccan and Mauritanian annexation of the former Spanish Sahara.

It was noted that Algerian President Houari Boumedienne -- unlike his Foreign Minister earlier -- made no reference to the Sahara in his opening speech to the summit Thursday.

In an obvious reference to President Sadat's peace moves with Israel, he said in a brief statement at Algiers airport: "We have come to reaffirm our positions against vain individual initiatives."

He added that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat must be considered the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Another fresh arrival at today's session was George Habash, leader of the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Mr. Habash's absence yesterday had prompted speculation of a renewed split between his group and the mainline Palestinian leadership.

At the Tripoli summit he sat beside Mr. Arafat for the first time in public since a major policy dispute led him to set up a Palestinian rejection front several years ago.

The Palestinian delegation also included Nayef Hawatmeh and Ahmad Jibril, who have

frequently been at odds with the official PLO leadership in the past.

Algerian Foreign Minister Bouteflika told correspondents late yesterday that President Assad and Mr. Arafat formally reiterated to the summit that they "never gave any mandate to President Sadat to speak in their name."

Without referring to Sadat's imminent visit to Washington, Bouteflika added, "so President Sadat has no mandate to speak either for Syria or for the Palestinian people. I stress this fact for the attention of the international community and particularly of President Sadat's immediate discussion partners."

"President Sadat has profoundly disturbed the peace effort undertaken by the international community and I think those who deal with him should underline this fact," he said.

The summit had been scheduled to end today, but informed sources said Col. Qadhafi's late arrival would almost certainly prolong the discussions until tomorrow.

Statement issued

The statement read to journalists outside the conference hall strongly condemned President Sadat, reaffirmed support for the Palestinians and warned Western powers against intervention in the Arab-Israeli dispute.

"Forsaking Palestine is not the price to be paid for peace in the Middle East," the statement said.

"Separate peace is not peace. Capitulation is not peace. Peace without the adhesion of the Palestinian resistance is war in abeyance."

The alliance said there was no ideological conflict in the Arab World.

"Only the action" Sadat

Iraq thinks summit useless

In Baghdad, Iraqi Information Ministry official Nadim Al Yassin told a press conference last night that Iraq was not interested in attending conferences "which we are aware in advance are useless."

He said that if the outcome of the summit was "a continuation of the Tripoli summit held in December and from which Iraq withdrew, then we consider the reasons for withdrawal to be still there."

Mr. Yassin said Iraq's attitude to the summit would be shaped by the policies of the Syrian government. The two countries are ruled by rival wings of the Ba'ath Socialist Party.

Mr. Yassin said Iraq wanted Syria to permit the deployment of forces from Iraq and other Arab states attending the conference along the northern front with Israel.

Chinese leader accuses USSR of sowing dissent in Arab ranks

PEKING, Feb. 3 (R). — Chinese Vice Premier Li Hsien-nien last night called for unity between the Arabs and Palestinians and bitterly attacked the Soviet Union at a banquet for a special envoy from Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

Egyptian Deputy Premier Mohammad Hassan Toghiani, who is here to explain Egypt's policy in the Middle East, was reported to be carrying a written message from President Sadat to Chinese Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. Mr. Toghiani had talks earlier yesterday with Mr. Li after arriving in Peking.

Observers noted that the Chinese vice premier's speech, carried by the New China News Agency (NCNA), heavily stressed the need for Arab unity but made no mention of President Sadat's peace initiative in the Middle East.

However, observers also noted Mr. Li basically followed the line Egypt has been taking on the question of the occupied territories and the Palestinian problem. He referred in his speech to the friendly relations and cooperation between China and Egypt.

Canadian External Affairs Minister Don Jamieson said two days ago after talks with Chinese leaders that China supported Mr. Sadat's peace moves and felt it now was up to Israel to do more.

Mr. Li said last night: "We are firmly against superpower aggression and interference in the Middle East countries."

"Israel must withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, and the national rights of the Palestinian people must be restored. Only this will it be possible to bring about a reasonable settlement of the Middle East question."

He went on to say: "Arab-Palestinian strength through unity is not only an important guarantee for the victory of the Arab cause, it is also in the fundamental interests of the people of the whole Third World in their anti-imperialist and anti-hegemonist struggle."

Mr. Li attacked the United States and the "Israeli Zionist policies of aggression and expansion."

But he reserved his most scathing comments for the Soviet Union. Without actually naming it, he said the "latecoming superpower" had done everything to encourage dissension among the Arab countries, to damage their unity, and to weaken and undermine the Arab front.

The Chinese vice premier said that was his "sincere hope that Arab countries will set store by the common interests of the Arab nation and exclude superpower interference and sabotage so as to attain closer unity."



KREMLIN TALKS -- South Yemen Prime Minister Ali Nasser Mohammad (centre) poses with Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Alexei Kosygin (standing to his right) and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko (to his left) before Kremlin talks Friday. Unidentified Soviet and Yemeni officials look on.

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That's lovely, but meaningless

British Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen's speech this week to the Zionist Federation of Great Britain, in which he challenged Jews to apply their standards of human rights universally, is a speech that all Arabs applaud. But, after the cheering stops, Dr. Owen will find himself in a rather difficult corner. For after he has told the Zionist Federation to do unto others as it would have others do unto it, we now ask Dr. Owen, and others who speak the same language that he does, to practice what they preach.

It is fine and dandy for major political leaders of the free democracies of Western Europe and North America to exhort all the people of the world to abide by inculcated fine standards of human rights and morality. But it is insufficient, we suggest, for these people simply to tell others to behave nicely, while the policies of their own Western nations explicitly support the policies of Israel which are based on an institutionalised and codified denial of Palestinian human rights. It is timely, perhaps, to remind Dr. Owen that action is the litmus test of one's intent, and however fine one's intentions may be, they remain embarrassingly hypocritical masses of lovely but meaningless words if they are so overwhelmed, as they are today, by the Israeli denial of the fundamental rights of the Palestinians.

Thus while Dr. Owen has done well to point out a hypocritical streak in the exclusivist Zionist concern about the human rights of Jews, he has also inadvertently refocused attention on the underlying hypocrisy that characterises the Middle East posture of Great Britain, the United States, the EEC and all the others who are now so concerned about the universality of human rights standards. That hypocrisy stems from the Western politician's ability to tell others to behave nicely while he gives Israel the life-sustaining support to continue refraining from behaving nicely. There is a contradiction here that has to be worked out, and until it is, the words of moral exhortation from the West will be increasingly meaningless to us, and awkward for those who utter them.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAY, on Friday, said the consensus seems to be that the Arabs have lost the will to re-create their solidarity as if a higher fate has decreed Arab disunity. This is so because Israel is acting on clear bilateral bases in trying to work out separate deals with each Arab party alone. While the peace issue has boiled down to a conflict over settlements in Sinai and whether these are legal or not, the Arabs remain silent about the bigger issue of continued Israeli occupation of their lands. It is pointless, hence, to inquire about what is currently taking place since fate seems to have drawn up a specific role for each to play. While Arab solidarity is absent any results will be achieved at the expense of the Arabs.

AL DUSTOUR said it is clear that the surprise trip which Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is to make to the United States is a stop-gap measure decided upon to counter President Anwar Sadat's visit there and his forthcoming talks with American Jewish leaders. Israel considers American Jewry its own property and President Sadat's parley with it can encroachment. Because if Mr. Sadat succeeds in convincing American Jewish leaders of his point of view President Carter's hand may be freed to pressure Israel into accepting a just peace -- and this is what Israel is afraid of.

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Ambitious 1978 budget depends heavily on more domestic revenue

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (J.T.). — Details of the state budget for the fiscal year 1978, totaling JD 371,813,000, were announced by the Minister of Finance Dr. Mohammad Dabbas at a press conference Thursday afternoon.

He said the estimated budget revenues for 1978 amounts to JD 356,813,000, while expenditure is estimated at JD 356,813,000: a deficit of JD 15 million which will be covered by domestic and foreign borrowing.

Dr. Dabbas added that the total current expenditure for 1978 amounts to JD 261,183,000 of which JD 85,224,000 is for civilian services, JD 4 million for aid to displaced persons,

JD 9 million for emergency cases and supply support, JD 8 million as interest on public debt and foreign loans, JD 82 million for the Jordanian Armed Forces and JD 13 million for the Public Security Forces.

The Finance Minister said local revenue is estimated at JD 185,813,000, financial aid at JD 103 million of which JD 10 million comes from Saudi Arabia, JD 16 million from Kuwait, JD 14 million from the United

States, JD 52 million from Arab oil states and JD 11 million in other aid.

The minister said economic and technical aid to be received by the government will amount to JD 4 million. Loans and current aid commitments amount to JD 61 million.

Dr. Dabbas significantly noted that total estimates for expenditure on capital and development projects amount to JD 170,289,000. The aim, he said, is to transfer Jordanian society from the stage of a services oriented economy to an industrialised economy in order that Jordan will be able to achieve self-sufficiency in the shortest possible time.

"Jordan's self-confidence is boundless; its determination on building up its economy and providing citizens with a dignified way of life is unshakable," Dr. Dabbas added.

He pointed to the stability and security which Jordan now enjoys, thanks to the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

The Finance Minister described the state budget as a document of hope and action. "Such a budget for a country like Jordan is considered ambitious, but less ambitious than the present government," he said.

Dr. Dabbas expressed thanks and appreciation for the continuous support to Jordan by Arab and friendly countries which strengthens the country's financial resources and enables it to carry out its national and international duties.

National News Roundup

Jordanian Envoy presents credentials in Poland

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — The Jordanian Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Dr. Hani Khasawneh, today presented his credentials to the Polish President, Henryk Jablowski, as a non-resident ambassador to Poland.

Electrical seminar to open tomorrow

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — A seminar on the maintenance of electricity networks will open at the Royal Scientific Society tomorrow and will be attended by representatives of the Jordan Electricity Authority, Amman and Irbid electricity companies, and the Royal Air Force. A number of American professors, representing an American firm which is currently training a number of Jordanian electrical engineers, will also take part in the seminar.

Finance from Islamic development bank discussed

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — The Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddin Dajani discussed in a meeting here yesterday with the representative of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr. Jalal Othman, the Jordanian projects which the bank will finance. Dr. Othman arrived here a week ago for talks with Jordanian officials on this purpose.

Aqaba governor hosts banquet for Soviet tourism chief

AQABA, Feb. 3 (JNA). — Governor of the district of Aqaba Khaled Al Zu'bi last night gave a dinner banquet here in honour of Sergei Nikitine, President of Soviet Foreign Tourism Department and the accompanying delegation who are now on a visit to Jordan to discuss tourism cooperation between the two countries. The delegation today visited a number of museums in Amman. The members of the delegation expressed their admiration of the tourist and historical sites in Jordan.

Arab commerce meet to open Saturday

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — The fifth meeting of the Arab Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture Union will begin here tomorrow. During its two-day sessions, the meeting will discuss a number of issues including the amendment of the Union's constitution. It will also discuss a report on the Arab-Spanish chamber of commerce.

Port of a thousand ships

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — The Aqaba Port Department announced today that 1036 ships of different kinds and nationalities visited Aqaba port during the year 1977.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Jordan Times welcomes letters from its readers commenting on material published in the newspaper or on any matter of public interest. Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and preferably not longer than 300 words. They will be edited only for style and grammatical purposes, and letters longer than 300 words may be shortened at the editor's discretion. Letters should be sent by mail to: the Editor, the Jordan Times, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

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BUSINESS GRAPEVINE

Compiled and edited by John Bonar

Richer outlook on foreign exchange

I understand from an impeccable source that Jordan's foreign exchange position has changed from a \$70 million deficit in 1976 to an almost embarrassingly large surplus in 1977. Although the Central Bank is still working on the final figures the surplus is expected to run into several hundred million dollars.

This dramatic change in the country's foreign exchange position is attributed to substantially increased remittances from Jordanians living and working in the Arab oil states, a noticeable resurgence of foreign tourist traffic to Jordan and substantial unilateral aid contributions from Arab and friendly states, and international agencies in support of Jordan's development programme.

The 1977 surplus is not expected to continue at such high levels however. Particularly as in 1978 and 1979 there are going to be heavy outgoing transfers to pay for development projects under way.

ated with General Motors in 1971.

On a grand tour of the Middle East the fleet is visiting 12 cities from Kuwait to Cairo. The journey started in Kuwait in May 1977 and moved from there to Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The display at the Jordan Intercontinental lasts from Feb. 4th through 9th, before it drives north to Syria.

It will ship by sea to Egypt where it is expected to arrive in March after travelling over 18,000 kms. through some of the most arduous conditions and over some of the world's most testing roads.

The Isuzu brand has not been well known in the Middle East hitherto but after this dramatic marketing and promotional exercise the Japanese manufacturer is going to be firmly identified with General Motors own enviable reputation for reliability and network of authorised dealer service stations and original parts supply centres.

Unusual application for solar energy

The government of Qatar has chosen a revolutionary method of protecting its underground pipelines from corrosion. It seems that buried steel pipes will corrode and eventually fracture, resulting in costly repairs or even closure of the pipelines.

The corrosion is due to electrochemical reaction between the metal and its environment. The best example of this is when a steel pipe is left unprotected, particularly in hot humid climates, it rapidly oxidises and reverts to its original oxide form, losing both shape

and usefulness. Traditional protection methods have been based on passing a supply of direct current, low voltage electricity, into the metal to completely neutralise the current generated naturally by electrochemical action between the steel and surrounding ground. The electricity supply has normally been obtained from conventional sources for example from transformer rectifier units fed from mains electricity supply.

In Qatar however the power source for the six volt electricity supply is the sun. In what is believed to be the first application of solar energy in this way the UK company, Lucas, installed 276 solar modules which are derived from the type used almost exclusively for spacecraft electrical systems, a series of storage batteries and leaves the sun to do the rest.

It is only recently that silicon solar cells of this type have become available at a cost which makes them viable for earth bound applications, and Qatar has had the foresight to choose this system making use of one natural resource that seems unlikely to be depleted -- the sun's rays.

Showing the flag

When millions of television viewers watch the annual Le Mans 24 hours car race later this year they will get a glimpse of Jordan flashing across their screen.

One of the cars racing this year is being sponsored by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline. It will be painted in Alia colours, have the airline's name on one side and Jordan on the other. There is even a slight hope that it might win!

King visits Jafr area

AMMAN, Feb. 3 (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein today made an inspection tour of the Jafr area in south Jordan and met with a large number of citizens, including tribal sheikhs and notables, who came to greet him.

The monarch listened to them describing their living conditions and grievances, promising to help them as best as possible.

His Majesty was accompanied in his trip by Chief of the Royal Hashemite Court Abdul Hamid Sharaf, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Zaid Ibn Shaker and Court Minister Amer Khammash.

Absurdity's loophole By Bassam Bishuti

This orange is poisoned!

Dear reader: I lay before you today a mystery as puzzling as a spy thriller and as challenging as a murder whodunit. Try, if you can, to solve it.

It started last weekend in the southern Dutch town of Maastricht where five children felt stomach pains after eating oranges imported from Israel. The children were taken to hospital, had their stomachs pumped and survived, without after-effects. An examination found the oranges to contain a few tiny particles of mercury -- a poisonous substance.

When the Dutch Health Ministry reported the incident a spokesman for the Israeli Citrus Marketing Board confirmed, in Tel Aviv on Wednesday, that some oranges exported from the country contained "a metal substance" which he did not identify. But he went on to say that "after examining the fruit it was found that the damage occurred in Europe" -- not, he meant to emphasise, in Israel before packing and export.

This statement was followed the next day by a report from the Israeli Agricultural Ministry that "no more than 20" Israeli oranges were found to contain the poison and these turned up in Holland and West Germany only. A West German official said the quantities of mercury found in the oranges were too small to endanger adults although children could suffer.

Meanwhile, the international news agency Reuters revealed that it had received, in London on Tuesday night, a letter signed by an unknown group calling itself the Arab Revolutionary Army -- Palestine Command which claimed that Palestinian workers in the Israeli-occupied West Bank had poisoned oranges with mercury "to damage the Israeli economy." A few hours later Reuters corrected itself to say that the letter did not specify the West Bank but had said the poisoning took place in "Israeli-occupied Arab territories" in general. The group said, Reuters reported, that copies of the letters had been sent to 18 health ministries in Europe and the Arab World. Only two of these -- West Germany and Norway -- confirmed they received copies, according to Reuters. Four or five others denied receiving any while the remaining majority never commented on the subject.

Seeing the implications of the Reuters report Palestinian officials, on Wednesday night, vehemently denied any of their groups had anything to do with the fruit poisoning; they denied having ever heard of the named group; they rejected the attempt to blacken Palestinian reputation and stated that the Palestinians fight their Israeli enemy in the open and not by endangering the lives of innocent people around the world.

The Israeli media, however, was not impressed. Thursday morning's newspapers published comments saying that "Palestinian terrorists... now send their freedom fighters to stab -- if not with the sword, at least with the syringe." The papers wondered: "Are the rejectionist Arabs launching a new fashion -- arsenic in your whiskey (and) scorpions in your sack of potatoes?"

Suddenly, the whole thing was turned upside-down when, on Thursday, both Holland and West Germany reported discovering two more mercury-tainted oranges, one in each country. This time, though, they were Spanish oranges! According to Reuters, this caused officials to discount the idea that the Palestinians were at all responsible. The Israeli and Spanish oranges found to contain mercury were, finally, traced back to a distribution depot in Belgium.

That is the story so far. It is obvious that the poisoning had been done deliberately and did not happen as a result of "natural" pollution. One would think of mercury poisoning sea food rather than citrus fruit and, in any case, the damage had occurred to only a few oranges not to a whole crop. It is more likely that the oranges were poisoned in Europe -- say Belgium -- rather than in the place of origin since it would have had to be in both Israel and Spain in such a case. Further, whoever poisoned the fruit did so with the intention of creating a scare rather than kill anyone because a few number of oranges were tampered with and a small amount of mercury was injected -- not dangerous to adults and not lethal to children. Finally, this person was not Palestinian since it would be pointless, even self-defeating, to poison Spanish oranges.

The result, then, is that someone poisoned a few Israeli and Spanish oranges somewhere in West Europe with the intention of creating a scare and blamed the Palestinians in letters he sent to West Germany, Norway and Reuters such that the resulting publicity would focus on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In specific terms on Israeli oranges and Palestinian "terrorism". Who is this someone?

The answer, as in any good thriller or whodunit, must be the one with the motive. The question is who stands to gain out of the incident? Of the parties involved -- Holland, West Germany, Reuters, Israel and the Palestinian -- none stand to gain anything in the strict sense of the word. Does any of them stand to "gain" something in another sense of the word? Tell me if you can answer.

DOCTOR SUHAD AL SA'D,

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announces the opening of her clinic in Shmeisani opposite Jordan Tower Hotel.

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French franc tumbles on fear of leftwing election victory

PARIS, Feb. 3 (R). — The French took another dive today on the foreign exchange market amid business anxiety over the prospect of a leftwing victory in the general election next March. The Bank of France tried to halt the slide by buying francs for dollars. Before the build up, the franc dropped to 4.8660 to the dollar from last night's closing rate of 4.83 to the dollar.

The prevailing rate until the plunge started late on Wednesday had been around 4.71 to 4.75 to the dollar.

In Frankfurt, the French franc touched a new low and

both the U.S. dollar and pound sterling lost substantial ground in lively trading on the West German Foreign Exchange Market.

The franc fell to 43.3 marks

per 100 francs from 43.7 overnight.

The dollar dropped to 2.1022 marks while sterling traded at 4.1 marks compared with 4.121 last night.

Dealers said the Bank of France spent at least \$200 million to prop up the currency, and possibly much more.

Market sources said the run on the franc, which started in late trading in London Wednesday, continued overnight in New York and the Far East and reached its climax in Europe again today.

As soon as big selling orders were detected in London Wednesday, the rush to unload francs spread elsewhere.

Opinion polls have consistently given the left the edge in the election battle. A recent poll said the present opposition parties would have a majority of 25 seats in the new National Assembly.

Even though communists and socialists fell out in September over the extent of state ownership if they take power, each is committed to radical economic reforms designed to transform French society and bring about a fundamental redistribution of wealth.

Israel orders striking tanker crew back to work

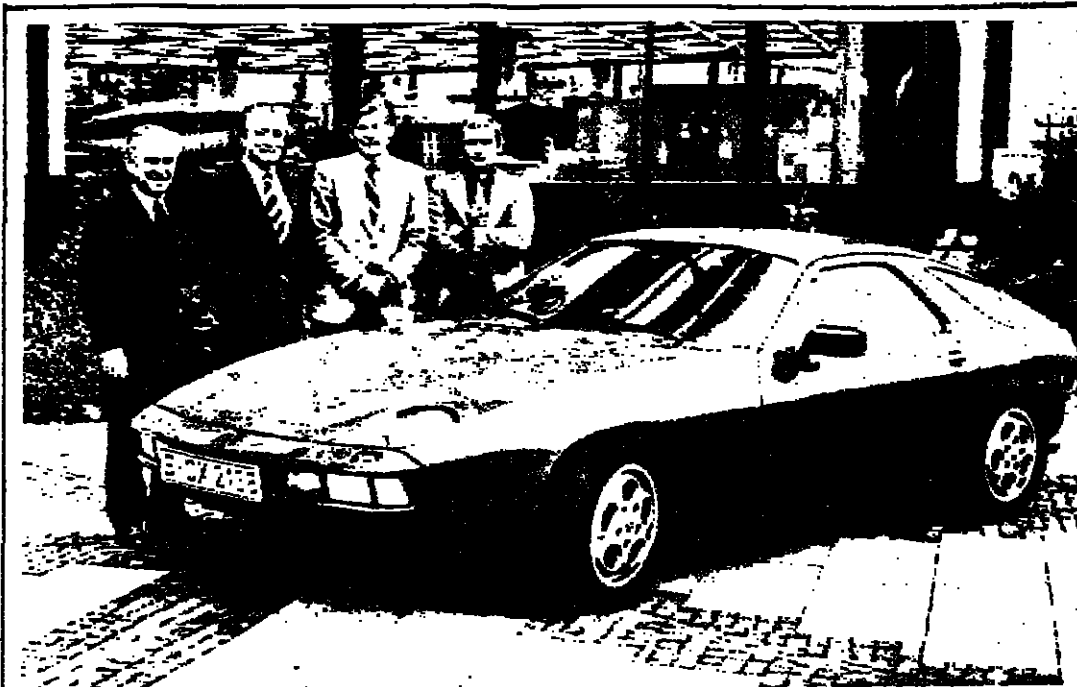
TEL AVIV, Feb. 3 (R). — The Israeli government yesterday issued emergency back-to-work orders to the crew of an oil tanker following Wednesday's intensification of the two-week old merchant marine strike here.

It was the first government intervention in the strike which since Wednesday has affected the local oil tanker fleet and cargo ships carrying essential supplies.

The two unions representing seamen and officers went on strike demanding higher wages which several navigation companies rejected.

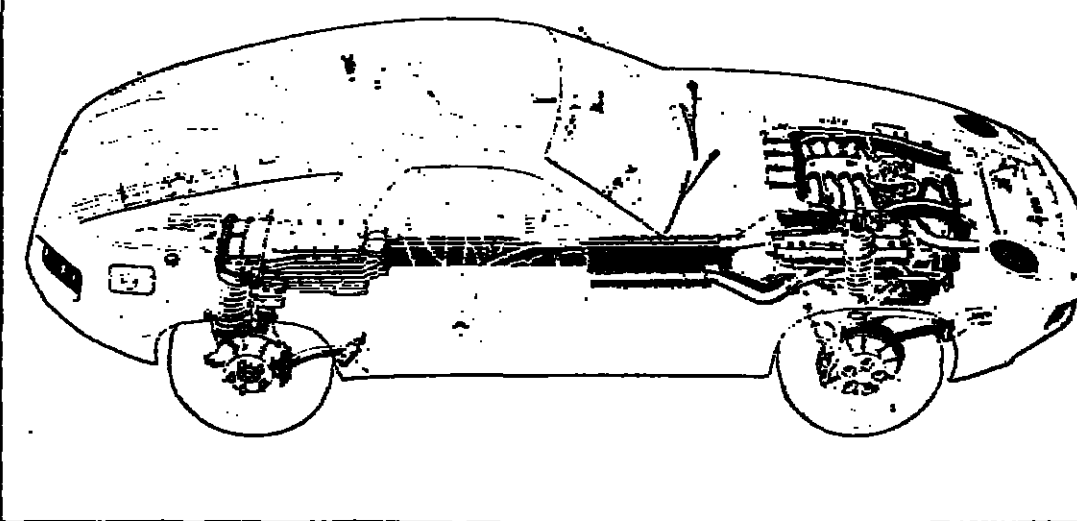
State emergency regulations authorise the cabinet to order employees on strike back to work if the stoppage affects state affairs as in the case of essential oil supplies.

Yesterday's orders were sent to the crew of only one vessel in Israel's southern port of Eilat. Government officials would not say whether similar orders would be sent to other seamen.



Some 51 European journalists of motoring convened recently and voted the Porsche 928 as the Car of the Year 1978. The majority of the jury felt that the luxury sports car from Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen, Germany, constituted an engineering marvel of the first order. The speedster, which can zoom along clear stretches of autobahn at 230 kms. per hour, has its weight divided equally on both axles, assuring a very favourable hold on the road. The 4.5-liter V-8 motor, in front, and the rear-wheel drive enable the vehicle to race from a standstill at 100 kph in 4.8 seconds. Both the steering wheel and the dashboard can each be adjusted to needs. Bumpers made of polyurethane and very strong roof support beams add to the car's safety. Testers of the periodical (with a circulation of over a million) found the motions needed to operate the five-gear shiftstick too big, the dimmed light too wan, and motor noise too loud. Nonetheless, they, too, managed to discover "progress in the design and a hundred smaller matters" in the Porsche 928. The jury chose the BMW 728, the Granada of Ford/Cologne, the Matra-Simca Rancho, and the Opel Rekord, in that order, as runners-up for the Car of the Year award.

From left to right are Porsche Board Chairman Fuhrmann, Development Chief Bött, Engineer Eyb, and Designer Moebius. (JPN photo)



THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN

AMMAN WATER AND SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Notice of international competitive bidding and

INVITATION TO TENDERING

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is negotiating a credit from the International Development Association to partially finance a construction programme of the water supply and sewerage extensions for the City of Amman, and it is intended that proceeds of this credit will be applied to payments under the contracts for which this notice is issued. Bidding will be open to contractors and equipment suppliers from countries who are members of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank) and Switzerland. Only tenders from contractors experienced in similar works of this magnitude with proper personnel, equipment and sound financial position, which would be part of evaluation, will be considered.

The works to be carried out will be in principle, divided into eight contracts as follows:

Description

Contract No:

- 2S Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Shmeisani and Nuzha comprising about 1 km. of mains, and 40 kms. of laterals and house connections.
- 3WS Laying of water pipes in Jabal Hussein, Jabal Amman and Sport City. Also supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same area. The work comprises about 3 kms. of water mains and 55 kms. for water laterals and house connections; 40 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections.
- 4WS Laying of water pipes in Hashimiyeh, Qusour and Nazzal. Supply and laying of sanitary sewers in same areas. The work comprises about 48 kms. of water laterals and house connections; 58 kms. of sewer laterals and house connections. Water reservoir in Hashimiyeh.
- 6WS Laying of water pipes and supply and laying of sanitary sewers in Marka. Work comprises about 36 kms. of water laterals and house connections; 18 kms. for sewer laterals and house connections and civil works for one sewerage pump station.
- 7MW Supply of water pipes and fittings for contracts 3WS - 6WS.
- 8MS Mechanical and electrical equipment for water and sewerage pump stations.
- 9MW Supply of 15,000 water meters and maintenance & operation equipment.

— Supply of maintenance equipment and vehicles.

Tender documents for contracts 7MW and 9MW are available and the closing date has been set at 12:00 noon, April 30, 1978. Tender documents for other contracts will be available starting April 1978.

Interested bidders can obtain tender documents for the stated works, either separately or together, from the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority, P. O. Box - 2412, Amman, Jordan.

The price for tender documents is:
JD 100 for tender 7MW
JD 15 for tender 9MW

British to help develop Kuwait's bus service

LONDON, Feb. 3 (R). — Experts from London's public transport system, one of the biggest in the world, will help to develop Kuwait's bus service, it was announced here today.

London Transport which said the contract with Kuwait was worth £750,000 has in the past

st exported transport "know-how" to cities including Caracas, Rio De Janeiro and Hong Kong.

An 11-man team will leave this month to spend about a year advising on the operation and maintenance of the Kuwait Transport Company's 1,000 buses.

INVITATION FOR TENDER NO. TCC 2 / 78.

FOR THE PROVISION OF PREPAY COIN (PAY STATION) INSTRUMENTS, EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL BOOTHS, OR ENCLOSURES, FOR THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN.

The Telecommunication Corporation of Jordan invites the submission of tenders for the procurement of from 40-80 prepay mode operation coin operated (paystation) telephone instruments, outdoor and/or indoor booths, enclosures and associated accessories.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish and install a combination of booths, boothettes or enclosures complete with coin operated telephone instruments, accessories, power and telephone lines. The installations shall include all concrete footings, conduit and fittings and shall be on a "turn key" basis.

The total number of such installations shall be 20 and must include working tests.

A — Agents can obtain the tender documents from the Telecommunications Corporation in Amman for a price of JD 50 (not reimbursable) at the following address:

Secretary of the Tender Committee
Telecommunications Corporation
P. O. Box 1689
Amman, Jordan.
(Telex No. 1221).

B — The tender documents consist of the following materials:

1. Instructions to bidders
2. Terms and conditions
3. Statement of work
4. Technical specification

C — The latest date for the submission of offers to the Telecommunications Corporation headquarters in Amman is 14:00 hours Saturday April 1, 1978.

D — Bids should be submitted in three separate complete copies, each suitably sealed with red wax and its covers labelled with the words "Bid for the provision of prepay coin operated (paystation) instruments, external and internal booths or enclosures. Tender No. TCC 2/78 original, first copy and second copy.

E — All bidders will be required to post a bid bond in the amount of five per cent of the bid value in Jordan dinars concurrent with the proposal issued from a Jordanian bank.

F — Any subsequent amendments will automatically be forward to purchasers of the tender documents.

G — All prices should be quoted in Jordanian dinars.

TCC Tender Committee
Amman, Jordan.

Carter's domestic crude oil tax proposal is in trouble

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal said yesterday President Carter's proposed multi-billion dollar tax on American crude oil had run into serious trouble.

The proposed tax on economic crude is bogged down in Congress together with the rest of the Carter oil conservation plan, which is designed to cut U.S. reliance on imported petroleum. When Mr. Blumenthal appeared before the Senate Budget Committee, Sen. Robert Dole, a member of an energy panel considering the Carter plan, told him the crude oil tax was dead.

Mr. Blumenthal replied: "I hope it is not dead -- it is not in good health, however."

The Treasury secretary urged Congress to help the administration shape some alternative if the tax is not approved. Mr. Carter proposed a tax on price-controlled U.S. oil to lift it to world levels over a three-year period and discourage American consumption.

The House of Representatives approved it and most of Mr. Carter's other energy tax, pricing and conservation policies. But the Senate refused to approve the package, insisting instead on a system mainly of tax cuts to encourage oil and natural gas production. Many observers think that the energy tax and conservation plan will remain in trouble until Mr. Carter enters the negotiations with Congress personally.

Portugal's Soares strongly defends party deal, austere recovery plan

LISBON, Feb. 3 (R). — Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares strongly defended his Socialist Party's deal with the conservative Centre Democrats in presenting his new government's recovery programme -- containing a strong dose of austerity -- to parliament yesterday.

He appealed to the Social Democratic and Communist opposition for social and political peace to allow Portugal's second constitutional government to tackle the grave economic crisis and bolster the new democracy which followed the 1974 revolution.

Towards the end of a two-hour speech, Dr. Soares made this plea: "Let us govern. If we stagger from crisis to crisis, democracy itself will be in peril."

On a day marked by strikes by 27,000 railwaymen and 20,000 Lisbon school teachers, the prime minister warned against the dangers of more agitation in the factories and fields.

The Communist Party and the communist-dominated Trade Union Confederation, CGTP-Intersindical, have both denounced the entry of three conservative ministers into the new Soares government as a dangerous move to the right and against the workers.

The CGTP-Intersindical, claiming to represent 80 per cent

of organised labour, meets on Saturday to decide its tactics following the swearing in of the new cabinet.

Dr. Soares declared that main priorities of the 312-page government programme included an economic stabilisation plan and the resumption of crucial loan negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) immediately after parliament had approved the package.

He said that a high level delegation of international and national trade union leaders will visit Portugal shortly to investigate the situation there.

"In the meantime the ICFTU is taking up the case with the International Labour Organisation in Geneva," the statement added.

The ICFTU, which claims a world-wide affiliation of some 90 million trade unionists, said that it expects the Portuguese government to give the arrested trade unionists a fair trial if it "insists on taking them to court."

BRUSSELS, Feb. 3 (R). — Mauritania President Moktar Ould Daddah said yesterday he had told the European Common Market his country would not use EEC development aid for military purposes.

He told a press conference here he had assured the European Parliament's Development Committee "assistance granted by the EEC will be used for the original purpose for which it was allocated and not for anything else."

The community has committed nearly \$37 million in aid to Mauritania under the Lomé Trade and Aid Convention.

The president, here on a three-day official visit, said the principal problems his country faced were drought, underdevelopment and what he called "Algerian aggression".

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — President Carter said yesterday that the unemployment rate of about 40 per cent among young blacks was a devastating feature of American society.

He told a conference on balanced national growth and economic development that more must be done to promote human rights in the United States by reducing heavy unemployment among black youths.

"We need to focus attention on basic human rights in providing escape from a wasted life," he said.

"The responsibility lies on people like us, who have been blessed with social peace, political and economic responsibility."

West German, Japanese and Spanish delegates said after Mr. Myers' speech that the U.S. proposal for a world fuel bank was not an adequate answer to their needs. "At best the proposed bank would compare with our present 90-day no guarantee against a possible uranium embargo, one delegate told Reuters.

PARIS, Feb. 3 (R). — The United States today propose the creation of an international nuclear fuel bank to minimise the risk of atomic weapon proliferation. It also renewed its plea for a delay in the development of fast-breeder reactors which produce plutonium, the raw material for the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Dale Myers, U.S. Under Secretary in the Department of Energy, made the proposal when he addressed a conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Nuclear Energy Agency of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The proposed bank would stockpile uranium and enriched uranium supplies to meet world needs, he said.

Mr. Myers said the United States was not seeking "to impose our will on foreign nuclear programmes, to harass the breeder efforts of others or to preach a new morality."

He said the nuclear industry must enlist public confidence in the planning and operation of nuclear facilities. France has declared its readiness to join the United States and other nuclear powers in preventing nuclear arms proliferation, but is pushing ahead with its plutonium-fuelled programme for a fast-breeder reactor.

Despite a violent anti-nuclear demonstration last summer in which one man was killed, the French are developing their first commercial fast-breeder and plan to export their advanced technology under strict safeguards, officials said.

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Tunisian situation perturbs ICFTU

BRUSSELS, Feb. 3 (R). — The world's main non-communist trade union grouping today continued to be gravely perturbed by the situation in Tunisia.

Mr. Otto Kersten, Secretary General of the ICFTU (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions) in a statement expressed particular concern about the continued arrest of many trade unionists in Tunisia.

He singled out for special mention Mr. Habib Achour, General Secretary of the Tunisian Trade Union Federation (UGTT) who is also a vice president of the ICFTU.

Mr. Kersten made his statement after hearing the report of Mr. John Vanderveken, ICFTU Assistant Secretary General, who just returned from a fact-finding tour of Tunisia during which he met Prime Minister Hedi Nouri.

The ICFTU remains convinced that the UGTT and its leaders were pursuing legitimate trade union aims and that they had neither political nor criminal motives as the Tunisian government imputes," said the Kersten statement.

It said that a high level delegation of international and national trade union leaders will visit Tunisia shortly to investigate the situation there.

"In the meantime the ICFTU is taking up the case with the International Labour Organisation in Geneva," the statement added.

The ICFTU, which claims a world-wide affiliation of some 90 million trade unionists, said that it expects the Tunisian government to give the arrested trade unionists a fair trial if it "insists on taking them to court."

Mauritania assures EEC of aid use

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FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, FEB. 4, 1978

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Small advantages come to you today but they can add to a more secure structure to your security. Try to do those things that will give you a better public image in the days ahead.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle civic affairs now but can bring you greater security in the future. Take no chances where your health is concerned.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study your financial situation and make plans to have greater abundance in the future. Express happiness with loved one.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try to please your mate more and show common courtesies that will be appreciated. Be happy with your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Check your surroundings and make plans for improvement. Take the health treatments you need. Relax at home tonight.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Put a special skill you have to work and make a fine impression on others. Later express your happiness with good friends at fun places.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Handle routine duties at home that need to be done so that later you can be with friends. Avoid one who wants to waste your time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get an early start on all shopping and other duties that are important to your welfare. Strive for more harmony at home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study your financial affairs so you can handle them more intelligently than in the past. Use good practical sense.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You are thinking early now and can accomplish a great deal. Come to a better understanding with your mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Personal affairs can be handled well today, provided you study all the details. Come to the aid of a close tie.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Spend some time in solitude and plan how to gain personal aims. Spend more time with mate and achieve greater harmony.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Show that you are most devoted to your friends and take steps to be helpful to them. The evening is fine for sociability.

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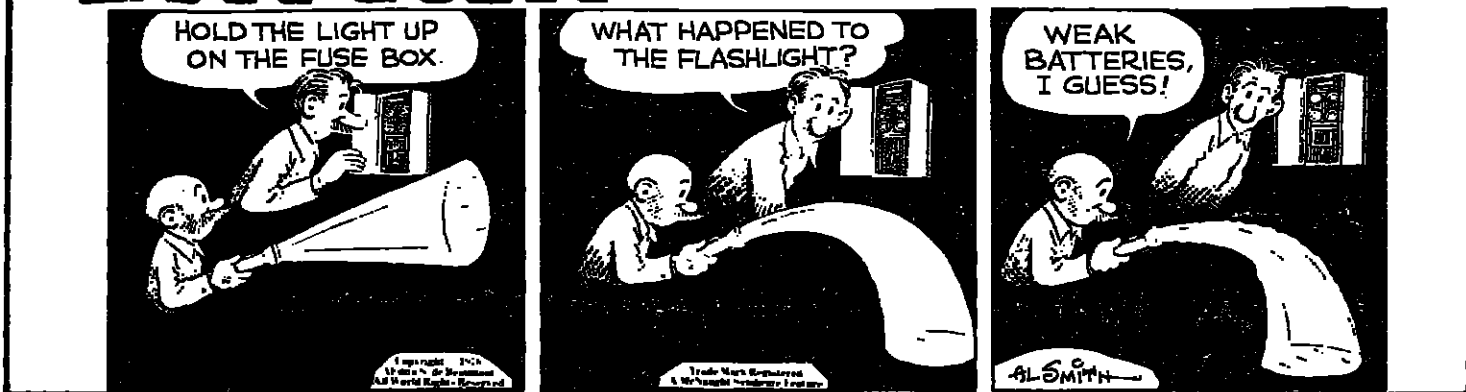
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ANDY CAPP



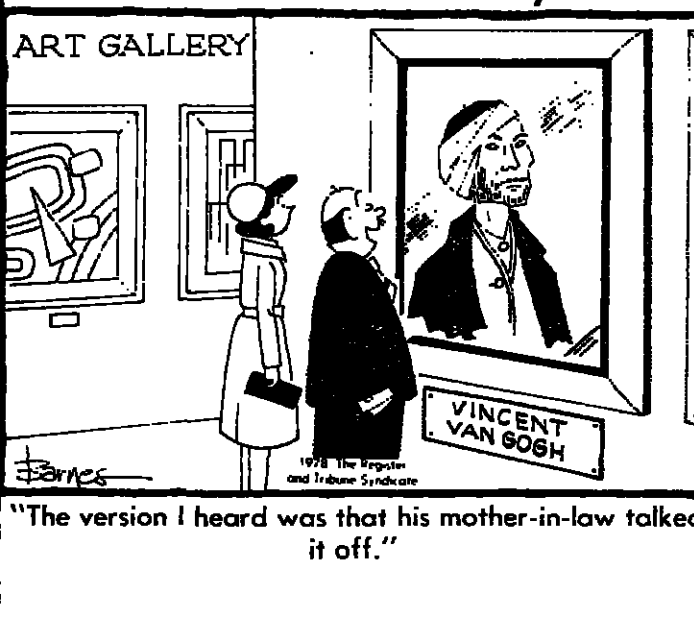
MUTT & JEFF



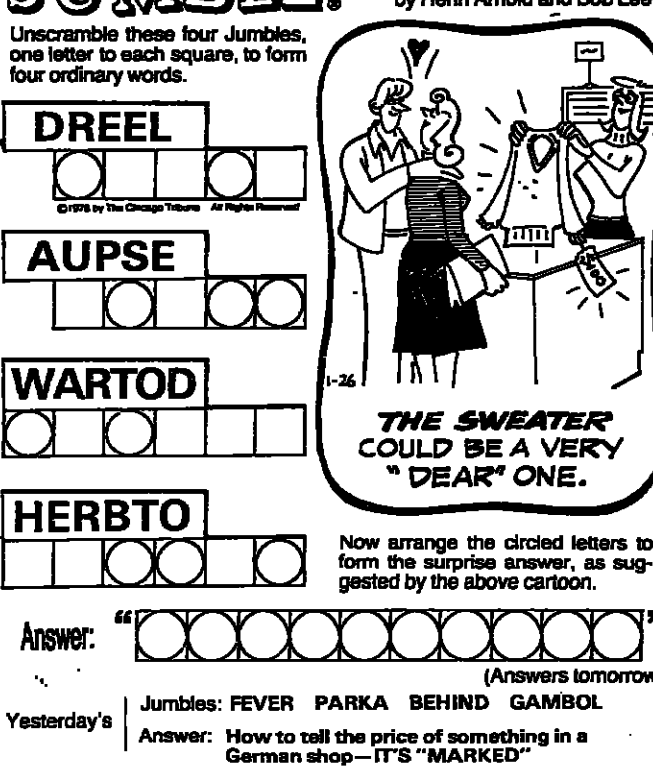
THE FLINTSTONES



THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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Both vulnerable. North
deals.

NORTH
♦ K 6 3
♥ 7 6 5 2
♦ A 10 7 4
♣ A 4

EAST
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♥ Q 9 8 4 3
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♣ 3

SOUTH
♦ 9
♥ A J
♦ K Q J 9 3
♣ K J 10 6 5

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass Pass 1 0 Pass
3 0 Pass 5 0 Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

The finesse is a peculiar animal. Sometimes you must spurn it when you seem to need it. On other occasions, you must take it when it appears to be superfluous. North-South reached their optimum spot in quick time. Since his partner was a passed hand, South suppressed any thought he might have had for slam after North jumped in diamonds, and simply settled for what looked like a sure thing. West led the queen of spades, which held the trick. Had he shifted to a heart,

the contract would have been beaten unless declarer possessed ESP powers, but we can attach no blame to West for electing to continue with a spade.

Declarer ruffed and saw no problem. He drew trumps in two rounds, cashed the ace of clubs and led a club to his king. When West showed out, declarer was in trouble. In order to avoid losing a club trick, he had to ruff three clubs in dummy, but there were only two trumps on the table. In addition, the defenders were entitled to a heart trick for the third defensive trick. Declarer was unlucky to find a 5-1 club break, but he had only himself to blame for failing to make the contract. When East follows to the second round of clubs, declarer can guarantee the contract by finessing the ten.

No, we are not result merchants. Let's assume the worst: West wins the queen of clubs and returns a heart. Declarer wins the ace of hearts, but the club suit is now established since it can break no worse than 4-2. Declarer cashes his three good hearts from dummy. Now he can ruff his heart loser on the table, and he ends up losing one spade and one club, thus making his contract.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:
6:00 Quran
6:15 Cartoons
6:30 Partridge family
6:45 Filler
6:50 News in Arabic
7:00 News in Arabic
7:30 Arabic programme
8:30 Arabic series

Channel 3:
7:30 News in Hebrew
7:45 Filler
8:30 Rhoda
9:10 Variety
10:00 News in English
10:15 Crown court

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Breakfast show
7:30 News bulletin
8:00 Morning show
10:00 News headlines
10:05 Play of the week
11:00 Signing off
12:00 News headlines
12:30 Pop session
13:00 News summary
13:05 Pop session

14:00 News bulletin
14:30 Arabic scientists
15:00 Concert hour
16:00 Pop session
17:00 French music
17:30 Pop session
18:00 News summary
18:05 Jumping Jack flash
18:30 Pop session
19:00 News bulletin
19:30 Signing off

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:
Amman:
Awil Hawzandeh (37665-72350)
Tarek Kayyash (30273)
Irbid:
Mohammad Al Sha'a (3680)
Farah Aghabawi
Tareq (23024)
Al Nil (44433)

Pharmacies:
Amman:
Sabbagh (23175)
Yalash (24425)
Paris (63939)
University (44554)
Irbid:
Zarga:
Hauzz

BBC RADIO

GMT
05:00 News; Press Review
05:15 About Britain
05:30 Music of Two Cities
05:45 World Today
06:00 News; Press Review
06:30 Terry Wogan
06:30 News; News about Britain
07:00 From the Weeklies
07:30 Do You Remember?
07:45 Letter from London
08:00 News; Reflections
08:15 Europa
08:30 Command Performance
09:00 News; Press Review
09:15 World Today
09:30 Financial News
09:45 South Riding
10:15 About Britain
10:30 Matthew on Music
11:00 News; News about Britain
11:15 Europa
11:30 Life on Other Worlds?
12:00 Radio Newsreel
12:15 Jazz for the Asking
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News; Commentary

13:15 People and Politics
13:30 Theme and Variations
14:00 News
14:15 Do You Remember?
14:30 What's New
15:00 Radio Newsreel
15:15 Saturday Special
15:30 News; Commentary
16:15 Saturday Special
17:00 News Summary; Saturday Special
17:45 Sports Round-up
18:00 News; News about Britain
18:15 Radio Newsreel
18:30 Theatre of the Air
19:30 Frank Chalkfield
20:00 News; Commentary
20:15 People and Politics
20:30 Command Performance
21:00 Scotland Today
21:15 The Melody Makers
21:30 Letter from London
21:40 Books and Writers
22:00 News; Music Now
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News; Commentary
23:15 Letterbox
23:30 Jazz for the Asking

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
05:00 The Breakfast Show
to the hour and 28 min.
06:30 News and New Producers USA
17:15 Critics Choice
18:00 Issues in the News
Special English; News; Words and their Story; Feature: People in America; News Summary.

18:30 Show Music USA
19:00 News and Topical Reports
19:15 New Horizons
20:00 Studio One
Special English; News; Words and their Story; The Concert Hall
20:15 News and New Producers USA
21:15 Critics Choice
21:30 Issues in the News
23:00 World News; Commentary

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:
7:40 Cairo (EA)
8:25 Muscat, Doha
8:45 Tehran
9:00 Karachi, Dubai
9:30 Kuwait, (Tarom)
9:50 Agaba
11:15 Beirut
17:00 Cairo
17:00 Copenhagen, Frankfurt
18:00 Benghazi
19:40 Beirut (MEA)
20:00 London (BA)
02:25 Rawalpindi (BA)

Departures:
8:00 Agaba
8:15 Paris (AF)
8:30 Cairo (EA)
8:45 Beirut (MEA)
9:00 Beirut
9:10 Rome (AZ)
10:30 Benghazi
10:40 Bucharest (Tarom)
11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam
11:30 Vienna, Copenhagen
12:00 Paris, London
20:00 Jeddah
20:30 Kuwait
21:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai
03:25 London (BA)

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37008
Goethe Institute 41953
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Amman Municipal Library 36111

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ambulance (government) Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue 24391-4
Fire headquarters 22080
Fire, fire, police 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) 37111-3
Police headquarters 39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help 21111, 37777
Airport information (Allen) 55205

Rebels seize airport in north Chad, hold 2 Europeans captive

PARIS, Feb. 3 (Agencies). — The Libyan-backed Chad National Liberation Front (Frolinat) has captured the main airport in Chad's northern region as its forces moved onto the offensive, according to Frolinat representatives here. The representatives said yesterday that 1,000 guerrillas, using arms supplied by the Libyan Jamahiriyah, had swung onto the offensive and killed 100 government troops in the arid mountain region over the past two days.

Frolinat said three French air force men, in Chad as military advisers, were killed when a Chad government transport plane was shot down by guerrillas.

Last night a French government spokesman said Frolinat guerrillas had taken hostage 20-year-old Frenchman Christian Marie Jean Masse. The spokesman refused to confirm radio reports that a Swiss national had also been taken hostage.

Unconfirmed reports say Frolinat is demanding a ransom

of 500 million CFA francs (\$800,000) for each hostage as well as the withdrawal of 300 French military advisers in Chad.

Chad and the Libyan Jamahiriyah are in dispute over the huge stretch of land in the north of Chad known as the Aouzou strip, which the Chad government says has been illegally occupied by Libyans.

In Bern, a Swiss Foreign Office spokesman today said Switzerland will seek the unconditional release of Andre Pierre Kuemmeling, the Swiss

national held hostage by the Frolinat movement.

Foreign Office Press Chief Ernst Andres said that Switzerland will not pay any ransom nor will it yield to any other conditions that may be put by the rebels.

Mr. Andres said that Switzerland will cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross and the French government in its efforts to obtain the release of Kuemmeling who was captured along with the French national. The guerrillas claim that both were on "espionage" missions.

Correspondents in the Chad capital of N'djamena yesterday spoke of a news blackout by President Felix Malloum's government on the latest developments.

French officials closely following developments in the former French African colony said the military situation in Chad was serious.

The officials said they had received reports of heavy fighting within the perimeter of the airport at Faya-Largeau, the region's main town, but could not confirm that the airport had fallen to the guerrillas.

The French officials refused to say whether President Malloum had asked for French military intervention on the lines of the active support given by the French air force to Mauritania in its fight against Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas fighting for the independence of the Western Sahara.

There have been persistent reports that Chad has been seeking such support.

U.S. may not be able to defend Europe, says top military officer

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — America's top military officer said yesterday the ability of the United States to defend against a major conventional attack in Europe is open to question.

Gen. George Brown, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who accompanied Defence Secretary Harold Brown in testifying before the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, made it clear that he would have preferred a larger defence budget than the proposed \$126 billion for 1979.

Gen. Brown noted that military improvements to meet the growing Soviet threat took time to implement after Congress approved increased spending.

"The military risk to the nation -- already high -- will increase," he said.

Soviet military improvements have been so great "that the conventional (non-nuclear) balance today is not reassuring -- the balance for the future is more troubling," he added.

"The ability of the United States to defend successfully against a major conventional attack in Europe... is open to increasing questions," Gen. Brown said.

Schmidt reshuffles cabinet following spy, bugging scandal

BONN, Feb. 3 (AP). — West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt reorganised his cabinet today in the wake of spying and wire-tapping scandals in the Defence Ministry.

Finance Minister Hans Apel was named Defence Minister to succeed Herr Georg Leber, who resigned.

Research Minister Hans Matthies moved over to succeed Herr Apel in the Finance Ministry, government spokesman Klaus Boelling said.

Her Boelling also announced the resignation of Fran Marie

Schlei, Minister for Economic Cooperation, bringing the number of departing cabinet members to four.

Appointed to succeed Herr Matthies as Research Minister was Herr Volker Hauff, an Under-Secretary in the Research Ministry and, at 37, the youngest cabinet member in West German history.

All the appointments came from the ranks of Herr Schmidt's Social Democratic Party, which rules in coalition with the smaller Free Democratic Party. The parties hold a 10-seat edge over the opposition Christian Democrats in the 496-seat Bundestag.

Herr Leber, one of the most popular Social Democrats, offered his resignation on Wednesday, but Herr Schmidt asked him to reconsider. Herr Boelling said Herr Schmidt accepted the resignation yesterday.

Herr Boelling said Herr Leber told the cabinet he could no longer stand by a statement to the Bundestag last month that the bugging of his secretary's apartment last month was the only instance of illegal electronic surveillance during his tenure.

A government official said: "Pakistan does not think that the setting up of the common market at this stage by the countries having different economic patterns will serve any useful purpose."

The Shah will make a four-hour stop on Sunday in Islamabad for talks with Pakistani military leader Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

As all Europe searches only Dutch find poisoned oranges

LEEUWARDEN, Netherlands, Feb. 3 (Agencies). — The discovery of more oranges injected with mercury was reported in the north of Holland today but police said tests so far had failed to establish their origin.

The contaminated fruit turned up in the home of a Leeuwarden family who pressed out several oranges and got juice containing mercury droplets, police said.

Previous discoveries of contaminated stocks in Holland have all been in the south of the country, about 160 miles away.

The Dutch have confirmed that some of the contaminated oranges came from Israeli imports, but one was found in what was described as non-Israeli stock. West German authorities reported yesterday the discovery of a contaminated Spanish orange.

The only known victims of the poisoning so far have been five Dutch schoolchildren who had their stomachs pumped after eating mercury-injected oranges. They are now back home again and in good health.

A spokesman for one big West German supermarket chain in Bonn said yesterday orange sales fell off considerably after Wednesday's scare and trading losses could amount to millions of marks.

But according to another nation-wide chain store, sales

were now beginning to pick up again.

In West Berlin, a ban imposed by health authorities on Wednesday on the sale of Israeli oranges was lifted yesterday and citrus fruit from Israel went on sale again at a big international food fair.

In Paris, officials said spot checks had failed to turn up any poisoned fruits in France. They said there had been no effect so far on the market for oranges.

In Sweden, the National Food Administration said no poisoned oranges had been found in the country, although consumers in five municipalities submitted Israeli oranges for examination. "We believe many of those who turned in oranges were overreacting to rumours," a spokesman for the agency said.

In Austria, the Health Ministry sent out officials to check on oranges in shops and in storage. But they said no case of mercury poisoning had

been discovered in Austria so far.

In Madrid, Spain's Agriculture Ministry yesterday said Spanish oranges are not treated with mercury, but it was possible that oranges from other countries were being sold as Spanish fruit.

The discovery of the Spanish oranges had reinforced official West German doubts over claims by a group called the "Arab Revolutionary Army" -- Palestine Command -- that Palestinian workers in Israeli-occupied territories poisoned oranges destined for export.

In Algiers, an official Palestinian spokesman yesterday dismissed as a "Zionist fabrication" reports that Palestinians had been poisoning Israeli oranges.

Mr. Abdul Mohsin Abu Mazzer told reporters the Palestine Liberation Organisation was made up of civilised people who would never consider such tactics.

Andreotti's party faces split threats

ROME, Feb. 3 (AP). — The Christian Democrat Directorate, facing deep internal party divisions, met today to decide whether to give Premier-designate Giulio Andreotti more negotiating room to meet Communist demands for participation in the government.

Christian Democrat Andreotti, seeking to form Italy's 36th post-war government, met party leader Benigno Zaccagnini yesterday. The talks apparently confirmed the political impasse that brought down the government nearly three weeks ago.

Political violence, meanwhile, continued with attacks yesterday on two Communist offices in Rome, causing heavy damage but no injuries.

The Communists, backed by the Socialists and Republicans, have demanded cabinet posts, or at least participation in a parliamentary majority. The Social Democrats, while opposing cabinet posts for the Communists, support their inclusion in a parliamentary majority.

Only the conservative Liberal Party has said it would oppose more power for the Communists.

Bhutto formally charged in court

agitation over his alleged election rigging.

The cases filed yesterday charge that Mr. Bhutto subverted Pakistan's Constitution by massively rigging the March 1977 elections in favour of his Pakistan People's Party and falsely declaring his assets before the present military government as worth only \$170,000, while known property ownership within Pakistan alone has been set at \$5 million.

The charges carry various penalties including prison sentences, confiscation of property and disqualification from running in future national elections and other political activities.

Police investigators took nearly seven months to collect the necessary information to bring the cases to court.

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agitation over his alleged election rigging.

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World News Briefs

Sudanese parliamentary elections begin

LONDON, Feb. 3 (R). — Voting started yesterday in elections for Sudan's third National People's Assembly (parliament) and the second Regional People's Assembly, Omdurman Radio reported. The radio, monitored in London, said voting would continue until Feb. 11 and the results would be announced the following day.

Gandhi's faction gets another symbol

NEW DELHI, Feb. 3 (R). — Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's faction of the divided Congress Party, banned earlier this week from using the party's symbol of the Cow and Cal, was yesterday allotted a "Hand" symbol by India's Election Commission. Mrs. Gandhi's failure to secure any of the popular symbols -- which many illiterates in rural areas rely on in casting their votes -- was seen as a serious setback to her party's chances in this month's important state elections. Mrs. Gandhi, 60, has just three weeks to make the unknown "Hand" symbol widely known. In allotting the symbol, the commission also recognised her Congress faction as a national party. It will be called the Indian National Congress-I (the I stands for Indira).

U.S. soldiers sign against neutron bomb

MANNHEIM, West Germany, Feb. 3 (R). — U.S. soldiers stationed in West Germany said yesterday they had collected over 100 signatures for a petition protesting against the possible development of the neutron bomb in Western Europe. The text of the petition, which will eventually be sent to the U.S. Congress, says: "A weapon which kills people while saving property is a tool for property owners but not for the rest of us who have only our lives to lose." One of the petition organisers said it had been told he would be discharged from the army for "not meeting the standards of a NATO unit."

Restrained welcome for Teng in Nepal

KATMANDU, Feb. 3 (R). — Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping received a colourful but restrained welcome when he arrived here today for a three-day official visit to Nepal. The trip -- Mr. Teng's second abroad since his political rehabilitation last July -- is the first significant contact between the two neighbours since the late Chinese Premier Chou En-lai last visited Katmandu in 1960. Mr. Teng, who flew here from Chengtu in Szechuan Province via the Tibetan capital of Lhasa, was welcomed by Prime Minister Kirtidhi Bhatta.

Filipino rebels free S. Korean hostage

MANILA, Feb. 3 (R). — Moslem rebels yesterday freed a South Korean technician held hostage for 15 days after being paid a second ransom, the technician's American employers said.

U.S. needs space arms to face USSR

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3 (R). — Defence Secretary Harold Brown said yesterday the United States does not want a space weapons race but the Soviet Union is leaving American with little choice but to compete. In the defence secretary's annual report to Congress, he said the Soviet Union had developed an operational killer satellite weapon system, had tested it eight times over the last two years, and was improving it. Killer satellites designed to knock out satellites sent into orbit by other powers for surveillance, communications or other purposes.

Donald Woods: Case of S. African censorship

The International Press Institute Annual World Press Freedom Review says journalism is becoming one of the world's riskiest professions. It cites kidnappings in six countries, bombings in six, murders in six, torture and other forms of assault in eight and detention in 25 -- all in non-communist countries. Now the escape of Editor Donald Woods has highlighted the personal as well as the professional pressures on journalists in South Africa.

By Derek Ingram

LONDON — The escape of Donald Woods, banned editor of the East London Daily Dispatch, will not have been altogether unwelcome to a government in South Africa which is bent on gradually strangling press freedom without actually appearing to do so.

The pressures on newspapermen in South Africa have been growing for years. The strategy is not to attack the press head-on by imposing straightforward censorship, but to make life so wearing and complicated for those journalists who oppose the government that they are forced into a position of self-censorship.

It is a war of nerves. Those who cannot stand the strain of personal and professional harassment may either give up the struggle or decide to leave the country.

Already in recent years some of the most outspoken journalists, of whom Donald Woods is the most important, have left; several others are wondering how much longer they can stick it out. In the end, personal considerations inevitably come into play: for how long can a journalist involve his wife and children in the strain -- and in a situation that seems likely to go on for years to come? It is not as if there is any light at the end of the tunnel. The situation, it appears, will only get worse.

Thus the South African government is gradually achieving its objective -- curbing publication of unpalatable facts and criticism of the government in those publications

that give it the most trouble, the English-language newspapers.

Harassment

With Woods's escape the personal harassment is being well documented -- the shots at his house while he was away and his wife was alone; the acid impregnated T-shirt sent to one of the children.

Long before Woods was declared a banned person a few months ago, while he was editing the paper, there had been incidents of harassment against him and others by the Special Branch. It is several years since one South African editor told me how, when he was out at lunch one day, leaving books were planted in his office so that when police called to see him they could -- and did -- make a case against him.

Journalism is a nerve-racking enough profession anyway

-- just producing a daily paper is a physical strain. It is infinitely worse if you are subject to the web of legalities that now enmeshes journalists in South Africa.

Legalities

For instance, there are now hundreds of banned persons in the country and it is illegal to publish statements by them. Newspapers must keep card indexes to keep track of them all.

Under the Internal Security Act a journalist can be banned and thus deprived of his livelihood (as happened to Woods) or a newspaper can be banned (as happened to the African newspaper the World).

Under the Prisons Act reports putting prison conditions in an unfavourable light cannot be published.

Under the Sabotage and Terrorism Acts it is easy to step over the line and find oneself accused of instigating or inciting anyone to commit any of a wide range of listed actions.

Benjamin Pogrund, Deputy Editor of the Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail, recently wrote a detailed article in his paper describing the fetters on the press. He said: "Newspapers live under constant and

enormous risk in their news reports, editorial comment, political comment, letters to the editor and advertisements. Any infringement of the Terrorism Act can mean a compulsory minimum of five years' imprisonment."

Under the Unlawful Organisations Act many organisations are banned and it is a crime to publish their views. A journalist getting information or a document about a banned organisation can be forced to give up the information under threat of imprisonment.

Under the Riotous Assemblies Act newspapers are again in tightly restricted on all matters pertaining to the country's racial situation.

Under the Criminal Procedure Act journalists can be jailed for not disclosing information.

On top of all this there is the difficulty of news gathering because of restrictions on freedom of movement. Black journalists must get permission to be in an urban area more than 72 hours at a time.

The results of these thousands of regulations -- to which have to be added the complicated laws of contempt of court -- is that the men responsible for what appears in the paper -- the editor and his executives, must spend

much of their working day not newsgathering but consulting legal advisers. One executive told me recently that whereas a few years ago he might make one call a day about a legal query he is now making a dozen or more calls.

Result: Anxiety

The strain and anxiety of all this is clear. Inevitably journalists find themselves imposing self-censorship. For those with families considerations of protecting the livelihood of them all come into play.

As Pogrund has written: "Any journalist who claims that he is not affected by this maze of restrictions is simply not even trying to fulfil his function of reporting on the totality of South African society. If he is trying he cannot avoid bumping up against the restrictions day in and day out."

At the same time, while gradually achieving its object of throttling the press, the government has by its tactics managed to maintain the impression overseas that the press is free.

To some extent it still is -- the fact that Pogrund's article setting out all the restrictions could be published at all can be cited by the government



DONALD WOODS

Black, white civil war in S. Africa probably inevitable, says Donald Woods

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut, Feb. 3 (AP). — A major civil war between blacks and whites in racially-troubled South Africa is probably inevitable, banned South African Editor Donald Woods told an audience of 500 students at Yale University. "It's unlikely that after 30 years of incriminations that anything will be achieved at the bargaining table," Woods said. But he added, "you've got to keep working. If you concede, you wash your hands of the whole thing." The journalist addressed the audience last week when he appeared as a Poynter Fellow. Woods predicted that if no progress is made in negotiations in South Africa, war is "less than three years away" and that "after one-and-a-half years irreparable damage will have been done to the country." Unless international pressure can compel the Pretoria government to the negotiating table, the kind of conflict that will result will not be the kind that other governments can turn their backs on, Woods said. "It will affect every nation profoundly," Woods, who worked for the Daily Dispatch of East London, fled South Africa on Dec. 31 after the South African government had banned him from the public beginning on Oct. 19 because of his criticism of the government's racial policies. He now lives in Great Britain.

مكتبة الأمل